

GERMANS LOSE ON AISNE AS TURCOS PRESS CHARGE

PARIS, Nov. 18.—The operations of the Germans in their operations against the Allies in the vicinity of Troyes-le-Val, on the north bank of the Aisne, is announced in an official French statement, issued here this afternoon. It states that Wednesday was marked by a recrudescence of the activity on the part of German artillery forces on the Belgian front, but that there was no attack by the infantry.

The French positions in the Argonne forest, it declares, have been maintained. The official communique follows: At the north of the day yesterday was marked by a recrudescence of activity on the part of the enemy's artillery, particularly between the sea and the Lys. There was no attack by infantry.

COUNTER-ATTACK DRIVES POE. The operations of the Germans in the operations around Troyes-le-Val have terminated very favorably for our troops. It must be remembered that we took that village a few days ago. They before yesterday the Germans attempted to recapture it, after having taken our first trenches. They advanced as far as the central crossroads of that locality, but a vigorous counter-attack by our Algerian contingent threw the enemy back, took from him all the ground that we had lost and inflicted heavy losses upon him.

In the Argonne we have maintained our position. On the rest of the front there is nothing to report. This is the first official announcement that has been issued stating that the Turcos were on the battle front along the Aisne. As they have been sent to points where the fighting was fiercest, it is believed here by the military experts that there has been a terrific conflict within the last few days on the north bank of the Aisne.

FIGHT OF LONG DURATION. On November 13 the French official announced that the Allies had taken possession of Tracy-Le-Val, with the exception of a cemetery to the northeast of the village. This was six days ago, and fighting has probably been in progress in this section for that many days.

As the French statement says that the fighting has ended favorably for the Allies, they have evidently driven the Germans from their positions in and about the cemetery. An unconfirmed rumor reached here today that the Germans have evacuated the village of Tracy-Le-Val, and that it is now occupied by the British. There is no confirmation of this report.

GERMAN RETREAT PREDICTED. The deep water left by recent storms in the fields and upon the highways and the roads north of Dixmude would render an advance of the British, French and Belgian a difficult matter. They would find it almost impossible to move their heavy guns forward through the quagmires and across the straits of water. The British and French, however, were in a position to concentrate the fire of five warships upon the buildings, demolishing them. The German loss is estimated at 1,000 men.

It is reported from Furnes that transports of the Germans in western Flanders have been extensively mined the roads. According to information from the same source, the British have been able, after terrific exertions, to move their heavy guns to the front and they are now cannonading the German lines.

Yser Canal was dynamited in Belgium have caused intense suffering to the British and Belgian troops as well as to the Germans. The latter, plunging forward in attacks wherever the water is shallow, have forced the allied troops also to advance in order to withstand the efforts to take their positions.

At some points the opposing soldiers have fought hand-to-hand battles with the water to their knees. Great numbers of troops have been incapacitated by rheumatism and kindred ailments, according to wounded British officers who have arrived from the front.

That the furious German attacks will be maintained for some time is indicated by a statement received by the War Office today. This was to the effect that large bodies of German troops, who had hitherto been held in reserve, are being transported rapidly to the Dixmude and Ypres fronts. This information was gained by the British and French aeroplane scouts.

KAISER'S ADVANCE HALTED TO CLOSE GAPS IN DYKES. Though temporarily halted in their campaign to gain the French coast by the floods caused by the cutting of dykes in the Yser Valley, the Germans are meeting this emergency as they have met others, with forces provided for just such an occasion.

Bodies of engineers numbering 700 men have been taken to the Dixmude front during the last week and are engaged in closing the gaps in the dykes and constructing pontoon bridges on which infantry can cross the inundated country.

CAVALRY SURPRISES BRITISH. Brief details of a heroic exploit by a company of German cavalry were received here today. The soldiers swam their horses for a mile through the icy water at night and took by surprise a body of English troops guarding a position near Dixmude. Though astonished by the sudden appearance of the German troopers, the British soldiers fought desperately to hold their position. They were finally driven out, and the Germans have "dig themselves in" at that point and are holding it against every attack.

While the floods are interfering with operations along the front from the coast on the southern coast of the Black Sea, was shelled Tuesday by a Russian fleet. An official statement by the General Staff of the Russian navy says: "Early Tuesday morning the Russian Black Sea fleet, which had been cruising off Trebizond, steamed close to the town, bombarded the harbor and barracks and set on fire buildings along the coast. "No Turkish ships were sighted off the coast."

PARIS, Nov. 18.—The following dispatch has been received by a news agency from Urmia, Persia: "The Kurds everywhere are giving way before the Russian troops, against whom they dare to make any desultory attacks. That part of the Kurd forces which the Russians defeated previously at Tergevan have retired to Schabbinan, where they are reforming."

RUSSIANS TAKE TURKISH TOWN ON THE EUFRATES. Pressure of Ottoman Troops Increasing on Caucasian Front. PETROGRAD, Nov. 18.—The capture of Tuzich, an important Turkish town in the valley of the Euphrates, is announced in an official report received from the Russian Governor General at Tiflis. It said: "On the Caucasian front the Turkish troops are increasing in numbers near Batum, where several fights have occurred. The Russian army has defeated the Turks in the direction of Erzerum. There have been numerous skirmishes in which the enemy was repulsed. The Russians have occupied Tuzich, on the Euphrates. The situation elsewhere is unchanged."

RADIUM FOR WOUNDED. Mme. Curie Organizes Relief Service for Battlefield. PARIS, Nov. 18.—Mme. Curie, who, with her husband, discovered radium, has suggested the use of automobiles containing radiographic apparatus on the battlefield, and has organized such a service. By the use of this field apparatus bullet wounds can be examined from a distance and the nature of the injury ascertained without the patient being moved.

Three Turkish destroyers have appeared before Bulgaria and are reported actually to have entered the Bulgarian arm of the Danube delta with the object of getting into communication with the Bulgarian army of Austria and Germany, or possibly merely as a protest against the government of the Danube delta. This action, with other moves of the Danube, is under the public eye of Europe, and protected by a series of treaties from 1841 down to that of London of 1912.

As a result of this action, has the question of breadstuffs on whether it will be sold with Germany and its ally Turkey, or whether it will maintain its own rights and support the right of the public law of Europe. In the latter case these Turkish warships, attempting to utilize the prohibited waterway running through Rumanian territory as a base for active activity against Russia, will be destroyed and interned.

Germany's action in this matter is being watched with intense interest.

NEW GERMAN DRIVE GAINS GROUND LOST IN WARSAW FLIGHT

Great Battle Rages in Poland Along 70-mile Front. Petrograd Admits Kaiser's Marked Advances. BERLIN, Nov. 18.—Driving its way forward into north-western Poland, between the Vistula and Warthe Rivers, the German army has changed its retreat of a week ago into an advance, and by a determined counter-offensive has regained about one-third of the ground lost in the recent retreat from Warsaw to the Prussian frontier.

Along a 70-mile front the Germans are attempting completely to crush the Russian offensive directed against Thorn and the surrounding region. The Russians are making a determined effort to check what may develop into another dash upon Warsaw.

An official communication, issued by General Headquarters today, says: "New battles have developed in Poland in the region north of Lodz, but no decision yet has been reached. To the southeast of Soldau the enemy has been forced to retreat in the direction of Milawa. Upon the extreme right, where a strong Russian cavalry force, which we defeated on November 15 and 16, has been driven back through Tilsit."

PETROGRAD, Nov. 18.—Admission is made in official statements of the importance of the new German advance. The statement is as follows: "Between the Vistula and the Warthe our advanced guards in an engagement with the Germans, who took the offensive, fell back in the direction of the River Bura. The enemy succeeded in gaining the footing of the region of Lentchitz (Lentchitz) and Orlov, throwing out advance guards in the direction of Plonk. (Lentchitz is 15 miles south of Kutno, which the Germans occupied several days ago.)"

Additional advice as to the effect that the General Staff anticipates no difficulty in checking the forward movement of the German army, which is at its strongest in this section. The marked advances are explained as due to the numerical superiority of the Teuton troops rushed into Poland from Thorn and the withdrawal of the Russian forces to ground more favorable for waging a great battle.

AUSTRIAN RETREAT MOVE OF STRATEGY, CONSUL SAYS. Explains Recent Operations in Poland as a Play for Position. The retrograde movement of the German-Austro-Hungarian forces of the last few days was not a retreat after a lost battle, but merely a strategic move, according to a statement made today by George von Grivice, Austro-Hungarian Consul General in Philadelphia and lieutenant colonel in the Austro-Hungarian army, in which he discusses the recent operations of the Austrian army. The Russians greatly outnumbered the Germans and Austro-Hungarians, he says, and this necessitated a retreat in order to gain time and not expose the forces of the Kaiser and Francis Joseph to the danger of a defeat.

In the other theatres of the war in which the Austrians are engaged the Consul General states that, according to the latest official dispatches received by him from his Government in Vienna, the Austrian forces are everywhere meeting with success. The statement made by Mr. Grivice is as follows: "According to the latest official information, the German, Austrian and Hungarian forces in the Russian theatre of war are concentrating in great numbers. The Russians are following them slowly. The fortress of Przemysl is again under siege. The retrograde movement of our forces during recent weeks is not a retreat after a lost battle, but is a strategic movement in order to gain time and not to expose our forces to the danger of a defeat, which might be caused by the numerically greater forces of the enemy."

The operations of the Austro-Hungarian army in Serbia are progressing very favorably. Our fifth and sixth armies have repulsed the whole Serbian army every time it offered resistance and have already reached on the 12th the territory of Banjan west of Valievo. "The Montenegrin forces, which were repulsed to Montenegro, have been now attacked in the Krivovo region near Grahovo. The bombardment of Cattaro has been discontinued, and the French battery on the Mount Lovcan has been silenced by our coast and naval artillery."

RAIDER KARLSRUHE DASHES AT VICTIMS FROM BRAZIL BASE. Mystery of Supplies Cleared by Captain of Captured Merchantman, Who Tells of Cruiser's Decoy Scheme. The mystery surrounding the source of supplies of the German cruiser Karlsruhe, terror of the South Atlantic, has been solved. The warship has established a base of supplies on Rocas Island, off the coast of Brazil, according to Captain Noel Fischer, master of the British steamship Inorazi, which was captured by the speedy cruiser.

Captain Fischer declares that the Karlsruhe has stored more than 15,000 tons of coal and ship supplies on Rocas Island. They were taken from the 17 merchantmen which she captured during September and October. When the cruiser comes out on her raiding expeditions, Captain Fischer said, she is accompanied by two of her captives which are used as decoys. These vessels are towed by the Karlsruhe and by supplying them with misinformation guide them into the cruiser's path. The officers of the cruiser, according to Captain Fischer, have secured a copy of the British code book which has been issued for communication between merchantmen and British warships, and this makes the task of the decoys simple. The cruiser is well informed as to the movements of various steamships and the character of their cargoes, Captain Fischer said, a fact which shows that she is in wireless communication with both the United States and South American countries. The captain of the cruiser told Captain Fischer that even a day late when he was captured and wanted to know what had happened him.

GERMAN AIR SCOUT FLIES OVER PETROGRAD FORTRESS

Views Defenses of Kronstadt, Which Protects Czar's Capital. AMSTERDAM, Nov. 18.—A German air scout has made a successful flight over Kronstadt, the principal Russian military and naval base, according to a statement published in the Frankfurter Zeitung. Kronstadt is a fortress built on an island at the head of the Gulf of Finland and is but 25 miles west of Petrograd. Its naval and commercial dock yards are protected by heavy fortifications. On the opposite side of the channel, but 300 yards distant, is the sister fortress of Kronstadt.

OCEANIC CAPTAIN ON TRIAL. British Probe Loss of Ship Off Scottish Coast. LONDON, Nov. 18.—The court-martial of Lieutenant David Blair, navigation officer of the former White Star liner Oceanic, began yesterday at Devonport. He is charged with having caused the loss of the vessel by negligence. The Oceanic, converted into an armed cruiser, ran ashore on the coast of Scotland September 8. All her officers and crew were saved.

WAR MOVES OF WEEK SHOW DOUBLE GERMAN OBJECTIVE. Operations in West Indicate Desire to Frighten England by Threatening Coast—Military Advantage Subverted to Political Expediency. By HILAIRE BELLOC. PARIS, Nov. 18.—The most striking characteristic of the campaign in France—that which seems to differentiate it from every other—is that the critical situations have never developed. They have never matured. They have never led to a decision.

Nevertheless one is tempted to say that, with (1) the violence of the struggle, (2) the large reinforcements involved upon the German side, and (3) the concentration at one point—the situation on the Belgium frontier does look nearer a decision now than any we have had before. The Germans have concentrated new forces. Among other better troops they are using boys much younger and men much older than the Allies have yet put into the field; and the action during the last fortnight near Ypres and to the north between Lille and La Bassée, proves they are depending upon superior numbers.

Now let us estimate the elements which may lead us to expect in this field success or failure upon either side. The first of these elements is the separation of objectives which, I do not say the German commanders, but certainly the French Government, has imposed upon the German forces. Some one, clearly, has presented an advance along the coast from Ostend toward Calais as one of the objects to be obtained by the German army. Clearly some other person has proposed another effort (and very vigorously maintained) to the west of Calais—the town of Lille. The two may be co-ordinated by some agreement. But the two objectives do not come from one head. Now see what this duplication of objective means. From the little town of La Bassée to the sea at Nieuport (twice the distance) is not less than 45 miles. Following the sinuosity of the battle line, it is a good deal over 50 miles.

FOUNDING THE WEAKEST LINK. In a struggle of a line of 10 against a line of 10 there is not likely to be a decision unless two of the 10 rush at one point to get through or turn round by one side to catch the opponent in flank. You do not tear a hole in your opponent's line by striking it everywhere with equal force. To tear a hole you must concentrate upon some apparently weak link in the chain. And the German army being what it is, possessing the tradition, doctrine and spirit of the offensive, it is not surprising that they are equally bound to find some explanation for this divergence of objective; this attack of the enemy; not alone in front of Lille, but at both these distant points. If the Germans massed all the men they could spare for their "bolt" in front of Lille and hurried them against the point of La Bassée, and if by so doing they tore a hole through the allied line there, they would achieve a result large in proportion to their success. If they poured through in great numbers and very rapidly, they would probably cut off that great body of their enemies which fills up the remaining 40-mile line between Lille and the sea. But even if they failed to cut that northern group, with its hundreds of thousands of men, even if they failed to take them prisoners and destroy them as a military force, they would, even in case of that incomplete success, compel this advanced northern portion to fall back very quickly. They would "uncover" as the phrase goes, all the sea-coast well past Dunkirk to the neighborhood of Calais. To win in the Lille region by using there, at the La Bassée point, all the men they have free, would be, in itself, to win Calais.

One would have thought that the heaviest "bolt" the Germans could afford to gather would have been shot at the centre of the line. The German army, clearly, has presented an advance along the coast from Ostend toward Calais as one of the objects to be obtained by the German army. Clearly some other person has proposed another effort (and very vigorously maintained) to the west of Calais—the town of Lille. The two may be co-ordinated by some agreement. But the two objectives do not come from one head. Now see what this duplication of objective means. From the little town of La Bassée to the sea at Nieuport (twice the distance) is not less than 45 miles. Following the sinuosity of the battle line, it is a good deal over 50 miles.

Whereupon a compromise has been effected between the politician and the soldier. The former first took large reinforcements for his attempt along the coast; the latter had reinforcements, also large, not as large as he could have wished, for his effort in front of Lille. But as the politician in master, the attack along the sea coast has used up most of the men, and is attracting to itself, by its very lack of success, more and more forces from the south. The seizure of the English Channel opposite Dover has in this war strategic value; but that value is quite out of proportion to the sacrifice of life it has already involved.

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AUSTRIANS CHECK CZAR IN GALICIA; MOVE ON SERBS

3000 Russians Captured, Vienna Officially Announces. VIENNA, Nov. 18.—An official report from the Austrian General Staff announces the capture of 3000 Russians in Galicia, and states that the operations against the Serbians are proceeding with great success. The report follows: "The continued operations of the allied armies in Russian Poland and Galicia are developing conditions that are highly favorable to our troops. Near Grebow (in Galicia north of Rzesow and about 90 miles east of Cracow), a strong Russian cavalry force was dispersed by our artillery and we captured 3000 prisoners. "The Russian advance toward the Carpathians is of no importance at present. Our troops occupy positions that are of great strength. "In Serbia our advance toward Belgrade continues. We have captured many guns and great quantities of supplies."

INSISTS REUTER IS DEAD. PARIS, Nov. 18.—The Pizaro prints further confirmation of the death of Colonel von Reuter, of Zabern fame, in a letter from a French priest, who says that he himself carried the body of the Colonel from a battlefield in Alsace. The Colonel, the priest says, had been bayoneted.

MRS. FREDERIC C. PENFIELD. MRS. PENFIELD WINS UNIQUE HONOR IN AUSTRIAN CROSS. Philadelphia First Recipient Outside Royal Family. BERLIN, Nov. 18.—Emperor Francis Joseph has conferred upon Mrs. Frederic C. Penfield, wife of the American Ambassador at Vienna, the Grand Cross of the Order of Elizabeth, in recognition of her efforts for the welfare of Austrian soldiers. Austrian newspapers emphasize the distinction of this decoration which, for the first time, is now conferred upon a woman not connected with the Imperial family.

Mrs. Frederic C. Penfield has frequently been described as the second richest woman of America. She is the daughter of the late William Weightman, a manufacturing chemist of Philadelphia, who left her a large fortune. This is not the first foreign honor that has been conferred upon Mrs. Penfield. In 1909 the Pope conferred the title of Marchioness upon her in recognition of her widespread charities. At the time of her marriage to Mr. Penfield she was taken off and the vessel sunk. The members of the crew were landed and paraded through the streets of Constantinople to impress the populace.

TURKS SINK RUSSIAN SHIP. ATHENS, Nov. 18.—A Turkish armed merchant steamship has captured a Russian steamship near Sinope. The crew was taken off and the vessel sunk. The members of the crew were landed and paraded through the streets of Constantinople to impress the populace.

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PRUSSIAN BATTLE RAGING AT SOLDAU, AS CZAR ADVANCES

Four Days' Terrific Fight Advantage to Russian Invasion, Petrograd Says. Foe Driven Back, Berlin Announces. PETROGRAD, Nov. 18.—A dispatch from the front describes a furious battle at Soldau, which was taken last week, but where the German army continues vigorous resistance to the advance on the great fortified centre of Graudenz. The dispatch states: "A terrific battle of unexampled violence has been proceeding for four days around Soldau. The cannonading has been maintained night and day. The Russians are endeavoring at any cost to avenge their former check at Soldau and are throwing themselves at the Germans with indescribable fury. They have carried position after position by assault, in spite of the infernal fire of the Germans. "In spite of the torrential rains, which have turned the ground into a quagmire, the Russians are advancing toward the interior of Germany. They have captured 10 big cannon, none of them damaged. "The official statement covering this field of operations is as follows: "In East Prussia our troops continue to make progress and fighting is going on near the Gumbinnen-Angerburg front, which the enemy is defending. "In the trenches, which we captured near Varshehagen, the enemy abandoned more than 200 dead. Among the officers whom we took prisoners here was an artillery officer sent to the infantry because of a lack of officers for that branch. "On the front along the Masurian Lakes our troops reached the wire entanglements of the enemy's position and forced them. "On the front between Csanstochowa and Cracow we have attacked important forces of the enemy, detachments of which operating at Lodovitz were routed. "In Galicia we have occupied successively the passes over the Carpathians."

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